

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph that begins on page 6, line 8 of the specification with the following paragraph:

The term “platelet activation state” or “activation state of platelets” is used herein to refer to initiation of thromboembolic potential or activity, or both, in platelets. It may involve, inter alia, the two critical factors required for the formation of thrombin: transfer of anionic phospholipid – mainly phosphatidylserine – from the inner leaflet of the cell membrane to the outer leaflet; and concomitant activation of factor V to factor Va, which is a required cofactor for prothrombin activation by factor Xa, on the membrane surface. Thus, the platelet activation state may refer to the level of prothrombinase activity associated with a platelet or the level of ~~thrombinase~~ thrombin which is produced as a result of the prothrombinase catalysis of prothrombin.